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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, March 26, 2003

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Sanborn Urges Residents to Utilize New Marshalling Yard

Free Service to Aid in Combating Foreign Parasite

(LANSING) – Macomb County residents will soon have the opportunity to dispose of ash tree related yard waste free of charge thanks to a new disposal program intended to combat an infectious insect population, state Senator Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond, today announced.

Marshalling yards within the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine area have been designated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, through Michigan State University Extension, for private residents and tree care companies to dispose of ash trees and limbs at no cost.

“The Michigan Department of Agriculture has assembled a program that will aid Macomb residents in disposing of their yard waste in a clean and environmentally safe manner,” Sanborn said. “The Emerald Ash Borer is a nuisance to our environment, and I urge all residents to utilize this free service when they are ready to dispose of yard waste.”

Macomb residents can take advantage of this program at Mid-Michigan Recycling, located at 24935 21 Mile Road in Macomb. The site is open for use Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Emerald Ash Borer is an exotic insect detected in Macomb County in the summer of 2002. The pest is an invasive species originating from Asia that affects ash trees and, to date, has damaged or killed millions of trees in affected areas.

Proper disposal of residents’ yard waste, according to the Department, will aid in eliminating larvae that reside within the EAB areas. A grinder will visit the site periodically to chip the waste material before it is incinerated, killing all or nearly all EAB larvae.

The process will help reduce the EAB population and the risk of residents moving infested wood to areas outside the quarantined area. Residents with questions may contact the Macomb County Extension Service at (810) 469-5180.